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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2685

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Harry Bims

Application No. 10/044,175

Filed: January 11, 2002

For: TOKEN-BASED RECEIVER  
DIVERSITY

Examiner: Nguyen, Duc M

Art Unit: 2685

Confirmation No.: 1604

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 5, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 4 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9, 14, and 19 as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A receiver diversity process comprising:

a plurality of repeaters receiving wirelessly transmitted packets from a mobile station; ~~and~~  
one of the plurality of repeaters forwarding packets of the wirelessly transmitted packets to a

switch if the one repeater is currently assigned to forward packets from the mobile  
station based on an indicator assigned prior to the wirelessly transmitted packets  
being sent; and

switching the indicator to another of the plurality of repeaters other than the one repeater  
based on movement of the mobile station with respect to the one repeater and the  
another repeater,

wherein the indicator assigned to the one repeater includes a MAC address that matches a  
MAC address of the wirelessly transmitted packets received from the mobile station.

2. (Original) The process defined in Claim 1 further comprising receiving the indicator from the  
switch.

3. (Original) The process defined in Claim 1 wherein the indicator is a token.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The process defined in Claim [[4]] 1 further comprising determining whether  
to switch the indicator to a different repeater.

6. (Original) The process defined in Claim 5 wherein determining whether to switch the indicator occurs on a packet-by-packet basis.

7. (Original) The process defined in Claim 5 wherein determining whether to switch the indicator occurs at regular intervals based on a predetermined number of packets.

8. (Original) The process defined in Claim 1 further comprising the one repeater sending an acknowledgement to the mobile station.

9. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

a repeater receiving one or more tokens from a switch, wherein each of the one or more tokens corresponds to a mobile station supported by the repeater, and wherein one of the one or more tokens is switched from the repeater to another repeater based on movement of the mobile station with respect to the repeater and the another repeater;

the repeater storing the one or more tokens;

the repeater receiving a wirelessly transmitted packet from a mobile station;

the repeater comparing a MAC address in the packet to the MAC addresses indicated by one or more tokens;

the repeater sending an acknowledgement packet to the mobile station if the MAC address of the mobile station, as indicated in the packet, matches a MAC address of one mobile station for which the repeater has a token.

10. (Original) The method defined in Claim 9 wherein the token is sent as part of an add token command to the repeater from the switch.

11. (Original) The method defined in Claim 10 wherein the token packet comprises an Ethernet packet.

12. (Original) The method defined in Claim 11 wherein the wirelessly transmitted packet is an 802.11 packet.

13. (Original) The method defined in Claim 9 wherein the wirelessly transmitted packet is an 802.11 packet.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving one or more tokens from a switch, wherein each of the one or more tokens corresponds to a mobile station supported by a repeater, and wherein one of the one or more tokens is switched from the repeater to another repeater based on movement of the mobile station with respect to the repeater and the another repeater;

means for storing the one or more tokens;

means for receiving a wirelessly transmitted packet from a mobile station;

means for comparing a MAC address in the packet to the MAC addresses indicated by one or more tokens;

means for sending an acknowledgement packet to the mobile station if the MAC address of the mobile station, as indicated in the packet, matches a MAC address of one mobile station for which the repeater has a token.

15. (Original) The apparatus defined in Claim 14 wherein the token is sent as part of a token packet to the repeater from the switch.

16. (Original) The apparatus defined in Claim 15 wherein the token packet comprises an Ethernet packet.

17. (Original) the apparatus defined in Claim 16 wherein the wirelessly transmitted packet is an 802.11 packet.

18. (Original) The apparatus defined in Claim 14 wherein the wirelessly transmitted packet is an 802.11 packet.

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

one or more mobile stations to transmit packets wirelessly;

a switch to provide tokens; and

a repeater coupled to the switch and having a memory to store one or more tokens, each of the

one or more tokens corresponding to a mobile station to be supported by the repeater;

and wherein the repeater receives a wirelessly transmitted packet from one mobile station and

includes

a comparator to compare a MAC address in the wirelessly transmitted packet to one

or more MAC addresses stored in the memory, and

a transmitter to transmit an acknowledgement packet to the one mobile station if the MAC

address of the one mobile station as indicated in the wirelessly transmitted packet

matches a MAC address of one token stored by the repeater,

wherein one of the one or more tokens is switched from the repeater to another repeater based

on movement of the one mobile station with respect to the repeater and the another

repeater.

20. (Original) The system defined in Claim 19 wherein the wirelessly transmitted packet is an 802.11 packet.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-3 and 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,067,297 of Beach ("Beach"). Claims 4-7 were objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent forms.

In this response, claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 9, 14, and 19 have been amended. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended to include substantially all limitations of objected claim 4. Independent claims 9, 14, and 19 have been amended to include an allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner. As a result, independent claims 1, 9, 14, and 19 are allowable. Given that the rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that the rest of the claims are allowable.


In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 9/2, 2004

  
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